

**From:** Martin Akel <akelassoc@earthlink.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 05, 2016 7:40 PM  
**Subject:** The People Vs. Phillips 66's Crude Oil Plan - The Answer Is YES WE CAN!  
**Attachments:** pastedGraphic.pdf; ATT00001.htm

Dear California Government Official:

# YES WE CAN!

Wednesday, October 5th was the 8th and final day of the SLO Planning Commission's hearings on Phillips 66's intentions to build a rail terminal and bring flammable crude oil trains to California and SLO County for the next 20 years.

This past spring, a "straw", non-binding vote of commissioners gave P66 the edge, by a 3 - 2 vote.

However, communities in SLO County and throughout California stayed strong, refusing to back down.

On Wednesday, after 8 months of public comments and tedious discussions, Planning Commissioners took their final, binding vote. One commissioner, Jim Irving, had remained undecided and dug deep into the truth and the facts. He recognized that P66's premise of running out of California crude oil simply was unsupportable, there was no credibility in their implied plant closing and loss of jobs, and there would be no economic impact on SLO County if the rail project was denied.

With his vote swinging toward rejection of the project (along with Eric Meyers and Ken Topping), the day was carried. By a 3 - 2 margin, the Planning Commission rejected P66's request for a crude oil rail terminal.

This issue will likely be appealed by P66 to SLO County's Board of Supervisors ... likely in the new year. So our communities must remain committed and prepared to get back to work to convince yet another body of officials that they must protect citizens' health, safety and way of life.

**But to the thousands of officials and citizens who fought the fight directly and indirectly, who wrote letters to the editor, sent an avalanche of emails, who showed up at rallies and attended the hearings that seemed to never end -- our efforts counted, and YES WE CAN!!!**

**Read the full story in The SLO Tribune -**  
**- <http://www.sanluisobispo.com/news/local/article106282582.html>.**

Warmest regards,  
The Mesa Refinery Watch Group  
[www.mesarefinerywatch.com](http://www.mesarefinerywatch.com)